

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly state and claim the present invention. New claims 13-19 have been added. No new matter has been added. Thus, claims 1-7 and 13-19 are pending in the present application.

In the Office Action, claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Crisler (U.S. Patent No. 5,477,550). The Examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 sets forth a method for receiving information in a communication system that uses automatic repeat request (ARQ) with incremental redundancy (IR). The method may include deciding which of a plurality of confirmation messages to transmit based on an information status flag indication contained in the received information and a decoding operation performed on the received information. The method therefore provides a technique for recovering from misinterpretation of a previous confirmation message transmission.

In contrast, Crisler teaches an error detection field that may be sent with each block. The error detection field may be checked to determine whether the block has been adequately received. See Crisler, col. 4, ll. 23-26. The Examiner alleges that the error detection field is an information status flag. Applicants respectfully disagree. As defined in the specification, the claimed information status flag provides information indicative of the status (*i.e.* new or continue information) of other information included in a transmitted block. For example, the information in the transmitted block may be NEW information or CONTINUE information, as indicated by an information status flag included in the transmitted block. See Patent Application, page 8, ll. 1-10. In contrast, the error detection field described Crisler is a set of bits that may be used by a receiver to determine whether or not the block is corrupted. See Crisler, col. 3, ll. 3-5. Thus,

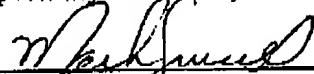
Applicants submit that the information status flag and the error detection field are completely different types of information that serve different purposes. Thus, Crisler fails to teach or suggest all the limitations of the claimed invention.

For at least the aforementioned reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-7 are not anticipated by Crisler because the cited references fail to teach or suggest all the limitations of the claimed invention. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner's rejections of claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) be withdrawn.

For the aforementioned reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all claims pending in the present application are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (713) 934-4052 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

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Respectfully submitted,



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